

State government employs almost 60,000 Utahns, or 5.5 percent of total nonfarm jobs. Salt Lake County, which has almost half of all jobs in Utah, is also the location of 59 percent of state government employment. Of course the capitol—Salt Lake City—is where the legislature and most state administrative departments are located.



By Jim Robson

Education Rules

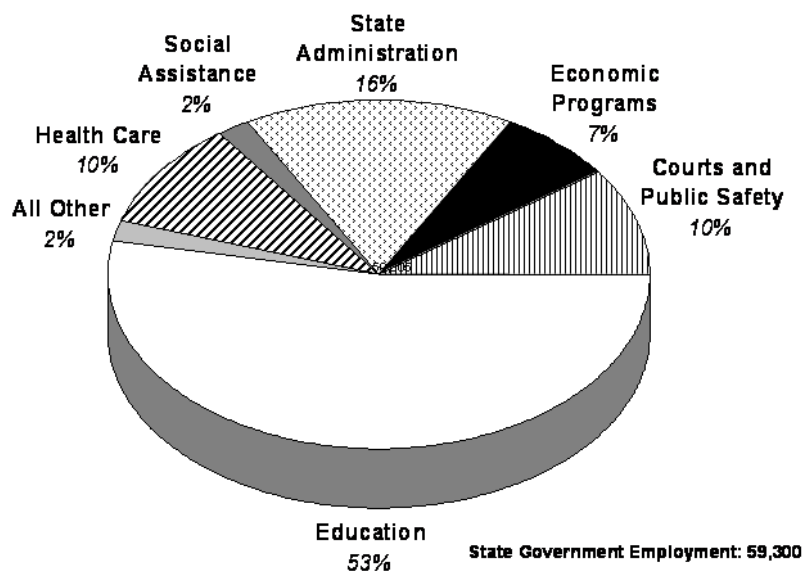
Education is an important function of state government. In Utah, 53 percent of state jobs are in education. For example, Salt Lake County has two large “higher education” institutions—the University of Utah and Salt Lake Community College; as well as the State Office of Education (which oversees state public education policy for grades K through 12); and the Salt Lake Applied Technology College. Together there are 15,500 state government education jobs in Salt Lake County out of total state government employment within the county of 35,100.

are state education jobs; and Southern Utah University in Iron County with total state employment of 1,850—of which 1,470 are state education.

In addition to education (31,212 jobs); the largest number of state government jobs are found administering general programs (9,500); providing for public order, the courts, and safety (6,020); and health care (5,870).

As you look around the state, you find that those counties with relatively large numbers of state government jobs host post-secondary education institutions. Wherever major higher education institutions are found, they constitute a significant part of the local economic base and provide a student workforce that supports other economic activity in the area.

Where Utah State Government Employees Worked in 2002



For Example. . .

Two prime examples are Utah State University in Cache County with total state employment of 6,100—of which 5,050

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.